

CLAIMS:

1. A method of displaying a two-dimensional image of a segment of a tubular structure (200) from a three-dimensional volume image data set of the tubular structure, the three-dimensional volume image data set comprising a plurality of voxels, each respective voxel comprising a respective intensity value
5 the method comprising:
defining a path through the segment of the tubular structure (200);
calculating a new intensity value for at least one voxel on the path using the intensity value of this at least one voxel;
calculating a new two-dimensional image including the new intensity value;
10 and
sequentially displaying the original- and new two-dimensional image of the segment of the tubular structure.
2. A method according to claim 1, comprising a plurality of iterations wherein in
15 each iteration the method comprises
calculating an additional new intensity value for the at least one voxel on the path using the intensity value of at least one neighboring voxel;
calculating an additional new two-dimensional image including the additional new intensity value and; the method further comprises
20 sequentially displaying the additional new two-dimensional image in addition to displaying the original- and new two-dimensional image of the segment of the tubular structure.
3. A method according to claim 1, wherein the new intensity value is displayed
25 in a distinctive color.
4. A method according to claim 1, wherein the distinctive color is displayed if the new intensity value relates to a threshold value.

5. A method according to claim 1, wherein the new intensity value is one of a minimum intensity value, a maximum intensity value or an average intensity value of the at least one voxel on the path and/or its at least one neighboring voxel.
- 5 6. A method according to claim 1, wherein the two-dimensional images are curvi-linear reformatted images along the path through the segment of the tubular structure.
7. A method according to claim 1, wherein the two-dimensional images are a Maximum or Minimum Intensity Projection of the segment of the tubular structure.
- 10 8. A method according to claim 1, wherein the tubular structure is one of a vessel or a colon or a trachea.
9. An imaging diagnostic apparatus (500), notably a CT apparatus or an MR
15 apparatus, for carrying out the method of claim 1, which apparatus includes an imaging unit (506, 500) for the acquisition of coarse data of an object to be examined (516) and also includes a program-controlled reconstruction unit (506) which is designed to reconstruct volume image data from the coarse data, the volume image data consisting of a plurality of voxels, each respective voxel comprising a respective intensity value, and defining a path
20 through volume image data; and is further designed to
calculate a two-dimensional image including the respective intensity values of the plurality of voxels;
calculate a new intensity value for at least one voxel on the path using the intensity value of this at least one voxel;
25 calculate a new two-dimensional image including the new intensity value; and sequentially display the original- and new two-dimensional image.
10. A computer program product designed to perform the method of any of the claims 1 to 8.
- 30 11. A computer readable medium having stored thereon instructions for causing one or more processing units to perform the method of any of the claims 1 to 8.

12. A system (510) comprising a suitably programmed computer of a workstation (512) comprising storage means (516) arranged to comprise instructions for causing one or more processing units to perform the method of any of the claims 1 to 8, and having display means (514) for displaying images processed according to said method.